ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A water heater apparatus includes a water conduit having an inlet and an outlet. A primary heat exchanger has a water side defining a portion of the water conduit. A burner is operatively associated with the primary heat exchanger for heating water in the water side of the primary heat exchanger. A variable flow blower provides pre-mixed combustion air and fuel gas to the burner at a controlled blower flow rate within a blower flow rate range. This apparatus allows the heat output of the water heater to be continuously varied within a substantial flow rate range having a turn down ratio of as much as four to one.

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